# **Small Business Zoning**

Council Work Session January 26, 2010



# **Small Business Zoning Program (2009)**



- Opening of Permit Center (12/08)
- A Frame Sign Program for King Street
- Outdoor display of rental bikes
- Administrative approval of BAR signs
- Small Business Zoning Program
- Wayfinding

# **Small Business Zoning Program (2009)**



### New permitted uses

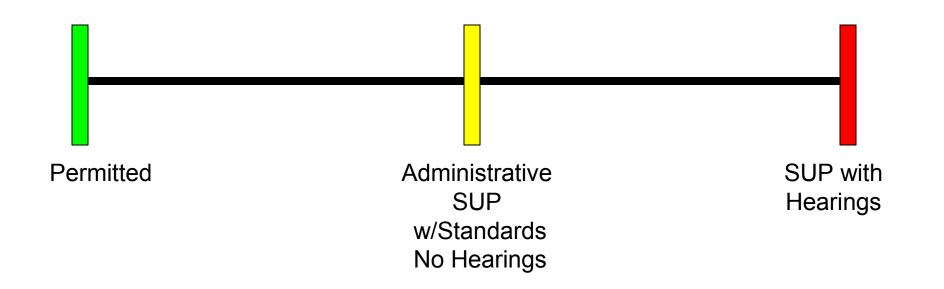
- child care center in commercial zones
- small schools, up to 20 students
- health and athletic center in shopping center, flex space center or office complex
- convenience store in office complex
- restaurant in shopping center, hotel or flex space (not KR, CD or CRMUX)

#### **New administrative SUP uses**

- child care center or preschool in church or school building in residential zones
- small garden centers
- outdoor food and crafts market
- overnight pet accommodations in shopping center
- light auto repair in flex space center
- catering flex space center
- restaurants (60 seats, full service)

# Range of Zoning Uses





## **Administrative SUP Process**



#### Application

Completed application submitted to Planning and Zoning

Application sent to other City Departments for review

#### **Public Notices**

Planning and Zoning staff posts notice of application to:

Local Newspaper

E-News mailing

Email to civic and business associations

Planning and Zoning Website

Sign On the Property

#### **Staff Review**

Planning and Zoning staff reviews comments from the public and other City agencies, and application for compliance with Zoning Ordinance

AND

determines conditions of approval, including unique conditions as appropriate to the request

#### **Director's Review**

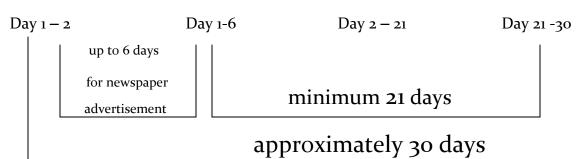
Planning and Zoning director reviews staff's recommendation and conditions and makes a decision to approve, deny, or refer to Planning Commission

Applicant notified of decision

Appeal/ Planning Commission

Referral
Completed appeal
application
submitted to
Planning and Zoning
and scheduled for
Planning
Commission
OR
Director's referral
scheduled for
Planning

Commission hearing



30 + days

## **Checklist for Administrative SUP Uses**



ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIAL USE PERMIT

INSTRUCTIONS AND CHECKLISTS

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONINNG

#### DUCTION

changes to the City's Zoning Ordinance to permit y with approval of an Administrative Special Use occas for businesses to obtain zoning approval for ools, childcare centers and small restaurants in subject to review and approval through a formal of a Special Use Permit request. Under the new approved as either permitted or administrative it.

orts of the Small Business Task Force, Planning and poth businesses and residents, came about after hearings.

plicant submit information to the Department of e. The applicant will also have to certify that they nts for the proposed use.

der the new ordinance include:

rch or school building in residential zones ercial zones tain commercial zones opping center

less, except in Old Town (CD and KR zones), where

prepared this checklist and worksheets to assist formation necessary for obtaining approval of an

rtment of Planning and Zoning, 703-838-4666.

ite at default.aspx?id=6644

#### Checklist and Worksheets:

elp you -- applicants, businesses and citizens – d requirements for administrative Special Use

l legal standards for administrative SUP uses, dinance, Section 11-513.

on on pages 2-5 to understand how to get an ind approved, steps the City will take to help you ral operating requirements for all administrative

worksheet that applies to your business. The rmine if an administrative SUP will work for you y for a full Special Use Permit.

worksheet page for your business and attach it dministrative SUP approval. In some cases, e required.

required by the Director if reasonably necessary mpatibility with the neighborhood.

or any questions about this checklist, the iUPs, or the process for approval, please contact 838-4666.

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## **Online Resources**



#### For Small Businesses

Welcome to the Planning & Zoning Department's you. Along with our Small Business Guide, this wo open Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm. V





Alexandria Small Business Guide



Planning Alex

#### Small Business Resources

- · Small Business Guide
- City of Alexandria Business Tax Branch business licenses are
   Starting a Business in Alexandria
- · Alexandria Small Business Development Center
- · Alexandria Economic Development Partnership
- Zoning & Code terms and defnitions to help you get startedSm
- · Forms and applications

#### **Administrative Special Use Permits**

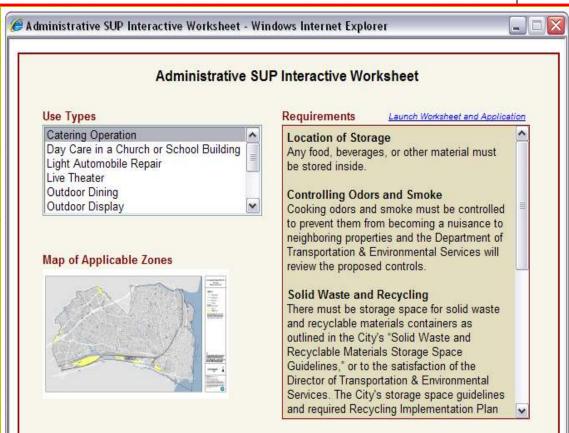
To learn more about administrative SUP application requirements

Launch Application



In December 2008, City Council adopted a zoning ordinance text ar language, a summary of the changes, background information and

- . Chart showing uses and zones affected by the zoning ordinan-
- · Summary of changes to the zoning ordinance for small busine
- · Adpoted ordinance
- · Background information
- · Administrative Special Use Permit Checklists, Worksheets and Applications





# **Small Business Zoning-2009 Data**

Out of a total of 72 cases which in 2008 would have required SUP approval with a full hearing, 36 of them in 2009 did not. They were either approved without a process as a permitted use, or reviewed as part of the new administrative approval process.



SUP Hearing Cases		36	
Restaurant	19		
Convenience Store	3		
General Auto Repair	2		
Home Day Care	2		
Other SUPs	10		
21 of these hearing cases were amendments			
Administrative SUP Cases		30	
Approved	27		
Denied	0		
Appeals	0		
Sent to hearing	3		
New administrative SUP and minor amendments		11	(8 of which were restaurants)
New Permitted Uses Approved		25	
Small schools	18		
Restaurants	2		
Day Care	2		
Light Automobile	2		
Catering	1		

# **Initial Ideas for Zoning Changes for 2010**

# Continue Work on Permit Process Improvements New Administrative SUP Cases

- Valet Parking Citywide
- Outdoor Dining Citywide
- Massage

### **New Permitted Uses**

- Wholesale
- Limited manufacturing
- Service uses in flex space centers
- Expand size of permitted schools (from 20 to 30)
- Clarify accessory "restaurant" in retail use

**Historic Districts - Expand Administrative Approvals** 

**DSUPs and CDDs - Retail Uses** 

## Initial Ideas for Zoning Changes for 2010 (continued)

## **Expand Minor Amendments**

- Allow larger expansions administratively (from 10% to 25%)?
- Allow a minor amendment of administrative SUP?

## **Expand restaurants allowed by Administrative SUP**

- Increase to 100 seats?
- Drop full service requirement?

## **Cameron Station Pilot Program**

## **Parking**

- Administrative parking reduction?
- Mt. Vernon Avenue requirements?

## Other Ideas?

# **Next Steps**



Council Guidance (Jan)

Planning Commission Work Session (Feb)

Staff Analysis (Feb)

Community Meeting and Discussion (March)

Draft Text Amendment and Recommendations (April)

Public Hearings (May)



# **Questions/Comments**